



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, October 19, 2005

MEDIA CONTACT: Arian Collins
619-236-5800

San Diego Public Library Nominated for Prestigious National Award for “Stories of Faith” Program

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego Public Library is one of 10 nominees from across the country for the prestigious Schwartz Prize of the Federation of State Humanities Councils. The nomination is for the Library’s program “Stories of Faith: Religion and Diversity in San Diego.”

“Stories of Faith” was a major, five-month program (September 2004 – January 2005) that featured a variety of activities, including writing workshops, oral history workshops, media documentaries, panel discussions and films.

Thousands of San Diego residents participated in the events and partners included universities and religious and cultural organizations. The goal of the project was to enable participants and the general public to learn more about each other's beliefs and values. Coordinated by Library staff members Lynn Whitehouse, Marc Chery and Aglae Saint-Lot, the program was made possible by a grant from the California Council for the Humanities, which submitted the nomination.

“‘Stories of Faith’ was a significant community collaborative that offered San Diegans important opportunities to explore their rich cultural heritage,” said City Library Anna Tatár. “We are extremely honored that the San Diego Public Library has been recognized nationally for the program.”

The Federation of State Humanities Councils, founded in 1977, is the membership association of 55 state councils. Through its program of research, conferences, collaborative projects, and communication to members, legislators and others on issues of public interest, the Federation provides support for the state humanities councils and strives to create greater awareness of the humanities in public and private life. The Schwartz Prize was created to recognize outstanding public humanities programs. The recipient of the award will be announced during the National Humanities Conference being held Nov. 4-5 in San Francisco.

In June 2005, the Library received the Marshall Cavendish Award by the American Library Association for the “Stories of Faith” program. The award recognizes either a school or public library that demonstrates excellence in library programming by providing programs that have community impact and respond to community needs.

###

The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future
<http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/>